JS 44 (Rev. 06/17)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

PLAINTIFFS Purell Curbean 4901 Stenton Ave, Apt. G-7 Philadelphia, PA 19144 (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				Liberation House, LLC 5249 Locust Street Philadelphia, PA 19136 County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)					
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)				NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED. Attorneys (If Known)					
Graham F. Baird, Law Of 2 Penn Center, 1500 JFk Tel: 267-546-0131		ladelphia, PA 19102	2						
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in O.	ne Box Only)		TIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPA	AL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in and One Box f		
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	★ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government N	lot a Party)			ΓF DEF I □ I	Incorporated or Pri of Business In T	incipal Place	PTF	DEF
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi)	p of Parties in Item III)			2 🗇 2	of Business In A		5	□ 5
				en or Subject of a reign Country	3 🗖 3	Foreign Nation		□ 6	□ 6 ———
IV. NATURE OF SUIT		ly) RTS	1 50	ORFEITURE/PENALTY	7,151,011,011	k here for: Nature of NKRUPTCY	Will be a second	escription	-
110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation	PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights	PERSONAL INJURY 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERI 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage 385 Property Damage 70 Jamage 70 Jamage 71 Product Liability PRISONER PETITIONS PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus:	62 65 65 77 72 74 75 75	LABOR O Fair Labor Standards Act O Labor/Management Relations IO Railway Labor Act II Family and Medical Leave Act O Other Labor Litigation In Employee Retirement	422 App 423 Witl 28 U 28 U	eal 28 USC 158 Idrawal USC 157 IRTY RIGHTS Syrights Int Int - Abbreviated Forug Application Jemark USECURITY (1395ff) Ste Lung (923) VC/DIWW (405(g)) D Title XVI	375 False C 376 Qui Tar 3729(a 400 State R 410 Antifrus 430 Banks a 450 Comme 460 Deport	laims Act m (31 USC)) eapportion st and Bankin erce ation eer Influenc Organizati ner Credit sta TV icis/Commo ige statutory Act tural Acts umental Mat m of Inforn	ment g ced and ions odities/ ctions tters
□ 220 Foreclosure □ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment □ 240 Torts to Land □ 245 Tort Product Liability □ 290 All Other Real Property	Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other 448 Education	□ 463 Alien Detainee □ 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence □ 530 General □ 535 Death Penalty Other: □ 540 Mandamus & Other □ 550 Civil Rights □ 555 Prison Condition □ 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement		IMMIGRATION 2 Naturalization Application 5 Other Immigration Actions	□ 871 IRS 26 t	Defendant) —Third Party USC 7609	899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes		
	moved from	Appellate Court	Reo	(specify)	r District	☐ 6 Multidistr Litigation Transfer		Multidis Litigatio Direct Fi	on -
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	12115CA 812	101 et seq	e filing (A	Do not cite jurisdictional stat					
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS UNDER RULE 2	IS A CLASS ACTION 3, F.R.Cv.P.	D	EMAND S 150,000.00		CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:		n complai	
VIII. RELATED CASI	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCK	ET NUMBER			
DATE 11/15/18 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		SIGNATURE OF ATTO	ORNEY	OF RECORD ()				
	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP	ar: 100	JUDGE		MAG. JUD	OGE		

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

CIVIL ACTION

Purell Curb	ean :	CIVIL ACTION			
Purell Curb.	LLC, et al	NO.			
In accordance with the Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan of this court, counsel for plaintiff shall complete a Case Management Track Designation Form in all civil cases at the time of filing the complaint and serve a copy on all defendants. (See § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the reverse side of this form.) In the event that a defendant does not agree with the plaintiff regarding said designation, that defendant shall, with its first appearance, submit to the clerk of court and serve on the plaintiff and all other parties, a Case Management Track Designation Form specifying the track to which that defendant believes the case should be assigned.					
SELECT ONE OF THE FO	DLLOWING CASE MANA	GEMENT TRACKS:			
(a) Habeas Corpus – Cases b	rought under 28 U.S.C. § 22	41 through § 2255.	()		
(b) Social Security – Cases re and Human Services deny	equesting review of a decision ying plaintiff Social Security		()		
(c) Arbitration – Cases requi	red to be designated for arbit	ration under Local Civil Rule 53.2.	()		
(d) Asbestos – Cases involvis exposure to asbestos.	ng claims for personal injury	or property damage from	()		
(e) Special Management – Cases that do not fall into tracks (a) through (d) that are commonly referred to as complex and that need special or intense management by the court. (See reverse side of this form for a detailed explanation of special management cases.)					
(f) Standard Management –	Cases that do not fall into an	y one of the other tracks.	(W)		
11/15/18 Date Ue7-546-0131		Purcy Curbean Attorney for grahamb@en(s			
Telephone	FAX Number	E-Mail Address			

(Civ. 660) 10/02

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

DESIGNATION FORM
(to be used by counsel or pro se plaintiff to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to the appropriate calendar)

Address of Plaintiff: 4901 Stenton ave, Apt. 6-7, Philadelphia PA 19144				
Address of Defendant: 5249 Locust St. PMladelphia PA 19139				
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: 90 W. Aften Ave #101, Yardley PA 19067				
RELATED CASE, IF ANY:				
Case Number: Judge: Date Terminated:				
Civil cases are deemed related when Yes is answered to any of the following questions:				
1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one year Yes No previously terminated action in this court?				
2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior suit Yes No Pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court?				
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier numbered case pending or within one year previously terminated action of this court?				
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil rights Yes No No				
I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is / is not related to any case now pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court except as noted above.				
DATE: 11/15/18				
CIVIL: (Place a √in one category only)				
A. Federal Question Cases: B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:				
1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts 2. FELA 2. Airplane Personal Injury 3. Assault, Defamation 4. Antitrust 4. Marine Personal Injury 5. Patent 5. Motor Vehicle Personal Injury 6. Labor-Management Relations 6. Civil Rights 7. Products Liability 7. Products Liability 8. Habeas Corpus 8. Products Liability 9.				
ARBITRATION CERTIFICATION (The effect of this certification is to remove the case from eligibility for arbitration.)				
I, Graham F. Bui d , counsel of record or pro se plaintiff, do hereby certify:				
Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, § 3(c) (2), that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action case exceed the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs:				
Relief other than monetary damages is sought.				
DATE:				
NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if there has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.				

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

PURELL CURBEAN 4901 Stenton Avenue, Apt. G-7 Philadelphia, PA 19144 JURY DEMANDED Plaintiff, v. No. LIBERATION HOUSE, LLC 5249 Locust Street Philadelphia, PA 19139 And LEGACY HOUSE, LLC 5249 Locust Street Philadelphia, PA 19139 And LIBERATION WAY, LLC 90 W. Afton Ave, Suite 101 Yardley, PA 19067 Defendants

CIVIL ACTION COMPLAINT

I. Parties and Reasons for Jurisdiction.

- 1. Plaintiff, PURELL CURBEAN (hereinafter "Plaintiff") is an adult individual residing at the above address.
- 2. Defendant, LIBERATION HOUSE, LLC ("Liberation House") is a business corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and a business address as captioned above.

- 3. Defendant, LEGACY HOUSE, LLC ("Legacy") is a business corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and a business address as captioned above.
- 4. Defendant, LIBERATION WAY, LLC ("Liberation Way") is a business corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and a business address as captioned above. Liberation House, Liberation Way and Legacy are referred to collectively hereinafter as "Defendants."
- 5. At all times material hereto, Defendants employed Plaintiff at Liberation Way treatment facility in Yardley, PA, and qualified as Plaintiff's employer under the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act ("PHRA").
- 6. Plaintiff exhausted his administrative remedies pursuant to the Equal Employment Opportunity Act and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act. (See Exhibit A, a true and correct copy of a dismissal and notice of rights issued by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.)
- 7. This action is instituted pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act and applicable federal and state law.
 - 8. Jurisdiction is conferred by 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1343.
- 9. Supplemental jurisdiction over the Plaintiff's state law claims is conferred pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
- 10. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1) and (b)(2), venue is properly laid in this district because Defendant conducts business in this district, and because a substantial part of the

acts and/or omissions giving rise to the claims set forth herein occurred in this judicial district.

Plaintiff was working for Defendant in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania at the time of the illegal actions by Defendant as set forth herein.

II. Operative Facts.

- 11. On or about August 1, 2016, Plaintiff was hired by Defendants as a driver and house manager at Liberation Way addiction treatment center at 90 W. Afton Avenue, Yardley, PA 19067.
- 12. On January 2, 2017, Plaintiff experienced a heart attack while at work, while he was engaged in driving a van owned by Defendants.
 - 13. Plaintiff asked his co-worker to take him to Lankenau Hospital.
- 14. Defendants' supervisor Steve Williams called Plaintiff's cell phone while he was hospitalized.
 - 15. As Plaintiff was indisposed, Plaintiff's aunt answered the phone.
- 16. Mr. Williams proceeded to ask Plaintiff's aunt when Plaintiff would be returning to work, because Mr. Williams was "tired of doing [Plaintiff's] work."
- 17. Plaintiff was released from Lankenau Hospital on January 7, 2017 and proceeded to return to work that same day.
- 18. Upon his return to work, Plaintiff attempted to provide Mr. Williams with medical records of his admission to the hospital and Plaintiff's discharge paperwork, however Mr. Williams refused to accept it.
- 19. On or about May 2, 2017, Plaintiff had a follow-up appointment with his physician, Dr. Louella Hargett.
 - 20. During this appointment, Plaintiff underwent an EKG, which came back irregular.

- 21. Dr. Hargett became so concerned with the results of the EKG she advised that Plaintiff was put under too much stress at work, and that he should be out on medical leave to facilitate his recovery and avoid another heart attack.
- 22. Additionally, Dr. Hargett was concerned with Plaintiff's immediate wellbeing and explained she wanted to call an ambulance to take him directly to the hospital from her office for further testing.
- 23. Plaintiff declined the ambulance, but drove himself to Temple Hospital, where his heartrate was found to be extremely low.
- 24. Following his discharge from Temple Hospital, Plaintiff provided Mr. Williams with a note from Dr. Hargett, stating he needed to be out of work from May 11, 2017 with a tentative return to work date of September 4, 2017.
- 25. Mr. Williams became upset and repeatedly asked Plaintiff "when he would be coming back" because he'd have to "hire someone to replace him."
- 26. Plaintiff additionally gave his doctor's note to Mr. Williams' supervisors Mohammed and Shannon.
- 27. Plaintiff asked Shannon for the contact information for Defendants' Human Resources department so that he could discuss his medical leave.
- 28. Plaintiff was told by Shannon and Mohammed he could take his doctor-advised leave, and that his "job would be there" when he returned.
- 29. At no time was FMLA or any other disability leave option discussed with Plaintiff.

- 30. In the weeks leading up to Plaintiff's tentative return to work date of September 4, 2017, Plaintiff continually communicated with Mr. Williams to advise of his return to work pending clearance from his doctor.
- 31. On September 4, 2017, Plaintiff received a text message from Mr. Williams that consisted only of several question marks.
- 32. Plaintiff assumed Mr. Williams was asking if he was coming in to work, to which Plaintiff responded that he had not had an appointment with his doctor yet clearing him to return to work.
 - 33. On September 15, 2017, Plaintiff was cleared to return to work.
- 34. Upon his return, Plaintiff was assigned to work the 11pm to 7am overnight shift, which was a completely different shift than that which he had previously worked.
- 35. Upon information and belief, employees without a diagnosed medical condition were given Plaintiff's previous position.
- 36. Plaintiff worked this new shift without complaint, however Mr. Williams began to nitpick various things about Plaintiff's work that had never been an issue before, such as how Plaintiff had done the dishes and laundry.
- 37. On one occasion, shortly following his return to work, Plaintiff was instructed by Mr. Williams to take several program members to a recovery walk which was happening during the day.
- 38. Plaintiff refused, stating that he was now working an overnight shift, he would not be able to come off of working all night and then go directly to working during the day as well.
 - 39. Mr. Williams responded that it "didn't seem like Plaintiff wanted to work".

- 40. On October 2, 2017, Plaintiff was contacted by another of Defendants' supervisors, Devon.
 - 41. Devon told Plaintiff that he was fired, and that it "just wasn't working out."
 - 42. Plaintiff was given no other explanation for his termination.
- 43. Prior to his heart attack and his need to take medical leave, Plaintiff had no writeups, issues, or complaints.
- 44. At all times material hereto, Defendants were hostile to Plaintiff's diagnosed disability and need to take a physician-advised medical leave and terminated him as a result of this animus.
- 45. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct in terminating Plaintiff, Plaintiff sustained great economic loss, future lost earning capacity, lost opportunity, loss of future wages, as well emotional distress, humiliation, pain and suffering and other damages as set forth below.

III. Causes of Action.

COUNT I – TITLE I CLAIM--AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (42 U.S.C.A. § 12101 et seq)

- 46. Plaintiff incorporates paragraphs 1-44 as if fully set forth at length herein.
- 47. At all times material hereto, and pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §12101, et seq., an employer may not discriminate against an employee based on a disability.
- 48. Plaintiff is a qualified employee and person within the definition of Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §12101, et seq..
- 49. Defendant is an "employer" and thereby subject to the strictures of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §12101, et seq..

- 50. At all times material hereto, Plaintiff had a qualified disability, as described above.
- 51. Defendant's conduct in terminating Plaintiff is an adverse action, was taken as a result of his disability and constitutes a violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §12101, et seq..
- 52. As a proximate result of Defendant's conduct, Plaintiff sustained significant damages, including but not limited to: great economic loss, future lost earning capacity, lost opportunity, loss of future wages, loss of front pay, loss of back pay, as well as emotional distress, mental anguish, humiliation, pain and suffering, consequential damages and Plaintiff has also sustained work loss, loss of opportunity, and a permanent diminution of his earning power and capacity and a claim is made therefore.
- 53. As a result of the conduct of Defendants' owners/management, Plaintiff hereby demands punitive damages.
- 54. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §12101, et seq Plaintiff demands attorneys fees and court costs.

COUNT II – VIOLATION OF THE PENNSYLVANIA HUMAN RELATIONS ACT (43 P.S. § 955)

- 55. Plaintiff incorporates paragraphs 1-53 as if fully set forth at length herein.
- 56. At all times material hereto, and pursuant to the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, 43 P.S. § 951, et seq., an employer may not discriminate against an employee based on a disability.
- 57. Plaintiff is a qualified employee and person within the definition of Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, 43 P.S. § 951, et seq,.

- 58. Defendant is an "employer" and thereby subject to the strictures of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, 43 P.S. § 951, et seq,.
- 59. At all times material hereto, Plaintiff had a qualified disability, as described above. Plaintiff's disability profoundly interfered with his day to day life activities.
- 60. Defendant's conduct in terminating Plaintiff is an adverse action, was taken as a result of his disability and constitutes a violation of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, 43 P.S. § 951, et seq..
- damages, including but not limited to: great economic loss, future lost earning capacity, lost opportunity, loss of future wages, loss of front pay, loss of back pay, loss of tips as well as personal injury, emotional distress, mental anguish, humiliation, pain and suffering, consequential damages and Plaintiff has also sustained work loss, loss of opportunity, and a permanent diminution of his earning power and capacity and a claim is made therefore.
- 62. As a result of the conduct of Defendants' owners/management, Plaintiff hereby demands punitive damages.
- 63. Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, 43 P.S. § 951, et seq., Plaintiff demands attorneys fees and court costs.

IV. Relief Requested.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Purell Curbean demands judgment in his favor and against Defendants in an amount in excess of \$150,000.00 together with:

A. Compensatory damages, including but not limited to: back pay, front pay, past lost wages, future lost wages. Lost pay increases, lost pay incentives, lost opportunity, lost

benefits, lost future earning capacity, injury to reputation, mental and emotional distress, pain and suffering

- B. Punitive damages;
- C. Attorneys fees and costs of suit;
- D. Interest, delay damages; and,
- E. Any other further relief this Court deems just proper and equitable.

LAW OFFICES OF ERIC A. SHORE, P.C.

RY.

GRAHAM F. BAIRD, ESQUIRE

Two Penn Center

1500 JFK Boulevard, Suite 1240

Philadelphia, PA 19110

Attorney for Plaintiff, Purell Curbean

Date: 11 15/18

EXH. A

EEOC Form 161-A (11/16)

U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO SUE

	(CONCILIATIO	N FAILURE)
То:		From:
	urbean Inton Avenue, Apt., G7 Iphia, PA 19144	Philadelphia District Office 801 Market Street Suite 1300 Philadelphia, PA 19107
	On behalf of person(s) aggrieved whose identity is CONFIDENTIAL (29 CFR §1601.7(a))	
EEOC Charge N	o. EEOC Representative	Telephone No.
530-2018-02	Legal Unit, Legal Technician	(215) 440-2828

TO THE PERSON AGGRIEVED:

This notice concludes the EEOC's processing of the above-numbered charge. The EEOC found reasonable cause to believe that violations of the statute(s) occurred with respect to some or all of the matters alleged in the charge but could not obtain a settlement with the Respondent that would provide relief for you. In addition, the EEOC has decided that it will not bring suit against the Respondent at this time based on this charge and will close its file in this case. This does not mean that the EEOC is certifying that the Respondent is in compliance with the law, or that the EEOC will not sue the Respondent later or intervene later in your lawsuit if you decide to sue on your own behalf.

- NOTICE OF SUIT RIGHTS -

(See the additional information attached to this form.)

Title VII, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, or the Age Discrimination in Employment Act: This will be the only notice of dismissal and of your right to sue that we will send you. You may file a lawsuit against the respondent(s) under federal law based on this charge in federal or state court. Your lawsuit must be filed WITHIN 90 DAYS of your receipt of this notice; or your right to sue based on this charge will be lost. (The time limit for filing suit based on a claim under state law may be different.)

Equal Pay Act (EPA): EPA suits must be filed in federal or state court within 2 years (3 years for willful violations) of the alleged EPA underpayment. This means that backpay due for any violations that occurred <u>more than 2 years (3 years)</u> before you file suit may not be collectible.

If you file suit, based on this charge, please send a copy of your court complaint to this office.

Enclosures(s)

On behalf of the Commission

8/20/2018

Junie R. Williamson, (Date Mailed)

District Director

Muhammed Abdul – Hadi CEO/Owner
LEGACY HOUSE, LLC D/B/A LIBERATION HOUSE
Graham F. Baird, Attorney at Law (for Charging Party)

Case 2:18-cv-04956-MSG Document 1 Filed 11/16/18 Page 15 of 16

Enclosure with EEOC Form 161-A (11/16)

INFORMATION RELATED TO FILING SUIT UNDER THE LAWS ENFORCED BY THE EEOC

(This information relates to filing suit in Federal or State court <u>under Federal law</u>.

If you also plan to sue claiming violations of State law, please be aware that time limits and other provisions of State law may be shorter or more limited than those described below.)

PRIVATE SUIT RIGHTS

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA), or the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA):

In order to pursue this matter further, you must file a lawsuit against the respondent(s) named in the charge within 90 days of the date you receive this Notice. Therefore, you should keep a record of this date. Once this 90-day period is over, your right to sue based on the charge referred to in this Notice will be lost. If you intend to consult an attorney, you should do so promptly. Give your attorney a copy of this Notice, and its envelope, and tell him or her the date you received it. Furthermore, in order to avoid any question that you did not act in a timely manner, it is prudent that your suit be filed within 90 days of the date this Notice was mailed to you (as indicated where the Notice is signed) or the date of the postmark, if later.

Your lawsuit may be filed in U.S. District Court or a State court of competent jurisdiction. (Usually, the appropriate State court is the general civil trial court.) Whether you file in Federal or State court is a matter for you to decide after talking to your attorney. Filing this Notice is not enough. You must file a "complaint" that contains a short statement of the facts of your case which shows that you are entitled to relief. Courts often require that a copy of your charge must be attached to the complaint you file in court. If so, you should remove your birth date from the charge. Some courts will not accept your complaint where the charge includes a date of birth. Your suit may include any matter alleged in the charge or, to the extent permitted by court decisions, matters like or related to the matters alleged in the charge. Generally, suits are brought in the State where the alleged unlawful practice occurred, but in some cases can be brought where relevant employment records are kept, where the employment would have been, or where the respondent has its main office. If you have simple questions, you usually can get answers from the office of the clerk of the court where you are bringing suit, but do not expect that office to write your complaint or make legal strategy decisions for you.

PRIVATE SUIT RIGHTS -- Equal Pay Act (EPA):

EPA suits must be filed in court within 2 years (3 years for willful violations) of the alleged EPA underpayment: back pay due for violations that occurred more than 2 years (3 years) before you file suit may not be collectible. For example, if you were underpaid under the EPA for work performed from 7/1/08 to 12/1/08, you should file suit before 7/1/10 – not 12/1/10 –- in order to recover unpaid wages due for July 2008. This time limit for filing an EPA suit is separate from the 90-day filing period under Title VII, the ADA, GINA or the ADEA referred to above. Therefore, if you also plan to sue under Title VII, the ADA, GINA or the ADEA, in addition to suing on the EPA claim, suit must be filed within 90 days of this Notice and within the 2- or 3-year EPA back pay recovery period.

ATTORNEY REPRESENTATION -- Title VII, the ADA or GINA:

If you cannot afford or have been unable to obtain a lawyer to represent you, the U.S. District Court having jurisdiction in your case may, in limited circumstances, assist you in obtaining a lawyer. Requests for such assistance must be made to the U.S. District Court in the form and manner it requires (you should be prepared to explain in detail your efforts to retain an attorney). Requests should be made well before the end of the 90-day period mentioned above, because such requests do <u>not</u> relieve you of the requirement to bring suit within 90 days.

ATTORNEY REFERRAL AND EEOC ASSISTANCE -- All Statutes:

You may contact the EEOC representative shown on your Notice if you need help in finding a lawyer or if you have any questions about your legal rights, including advice on which U.S. District Court can hear your case. If you need to inspect or obtain a copy of information in EEOC's file on the charge, please request it promptly in writing and provide your charge number (as shown on your Notice). While EEOC destroys charge files after a certain time, all charge files are kept for at least 6 months after our last action on the case. Therefore, if you file suit and want to review the charge file, please make your review request within 6 months of this Notice. (Before filing suit, any request should be made within the next 90 days.)

NOTICE OF RIGHTS UNDER THE ADA AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2008 (ADAAA): The ADA was amended, effective January 1, 2009, to broaden the definitions of disability to make it easier for individuals to be covered under the ADA/ADAAA. A disability is still defined as (1) a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities (actual disability); (2) a record of a substantially limiting impairment; or (3) being regarded as having a disability. However, these terms are redefined, and it is easier to be covered under the new law.

If you plan to retain an attorney to assist you with your ADA claim, we recommend that you share this information with your attorney and suggest that he or she consult the amended regulations and appendix, and other ADA related publications, available at http://www.eeoc.gov/laws/types/disability regulations.cfm.

"Actual" disability or a "record of" a disability (note: if you are pursuing a failure to accommodate claim you must meet the standards for either "actual" or "record of" a disability):

- > The limitations from the impairment no longer have to be severe or significant for the impairment to be considered substantially limiting.
- In addition to activities such as performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, thinking, concentrating, reading, bending, and communicating (more examples at 29 C.F.R. § 1630.2(i)), "major life activities" now include the operation of major bodily functions, such as: functions of the immune system, special sense organs and skin; normal cell growth; and digestive, genitourinary, bowel, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, cardiovascular, endocrine, hemic, lymphatic, musculoskeletal, and reproductive functions; or the operation of an individual organ within a body system.
- > Only one major life activity need be substantially limited.
- With the exception of ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses, the beneficial effects of "mitigating measures" (e.g., hearing aid, prosthesis, medication, therapy, behavioral modifications) are not considered in determining if the impairment substantially limits a major life activity.
- An impairment that is "episodic" (e.g., epilepsy, depression, multiple sclerosis) or "in remission" (e.g., cancer) is a disability if it would be substantially limiting when active.
- An impairment may be substantially limiting even though it lasts or is expected to last fewer than six months.

"Regarded as" coverage:

- An individual can meet the definition of disability if an employment action was taken because of an actual or perceived impairment (e.g., refusal to hire, demotion, placement on involuntary leave, termination, exclusion for failure to meet a qualification standard, harassment, or denial of any other term, condition, or privilege of employment).
- > "Regarded as" coverage under the ADAAA no longer requires that an impairment be substantially limiting, or that the employer perceives the impairment to be substantially limiting.
- The employer has a defense against a "regarded as" claim only when the impairment at issue is objectively BOTH transitory (lasting or expected to last six months or less) AND minor.
- A person is not able to bring a failure to accommodate claim if the individual is covered only under the "regarded as" definition of "disability."

Note: Although the amended ADA states that the definition of disability "shall be construed broadly" and "should not demand extensive analysis," some courts require specificity in the complaint explaining how an impairment substantially limits a major life activity or what facts indicate the challenged employment action was because of the impairment. Beyond the initial pleading stage, some courts will require specific evidence to establish disability. For more information, consult the amended regulations and appendix, as well as explanatory publications, available at http://www.eeoc.gov/laws/types/disability_regulations.cfm.